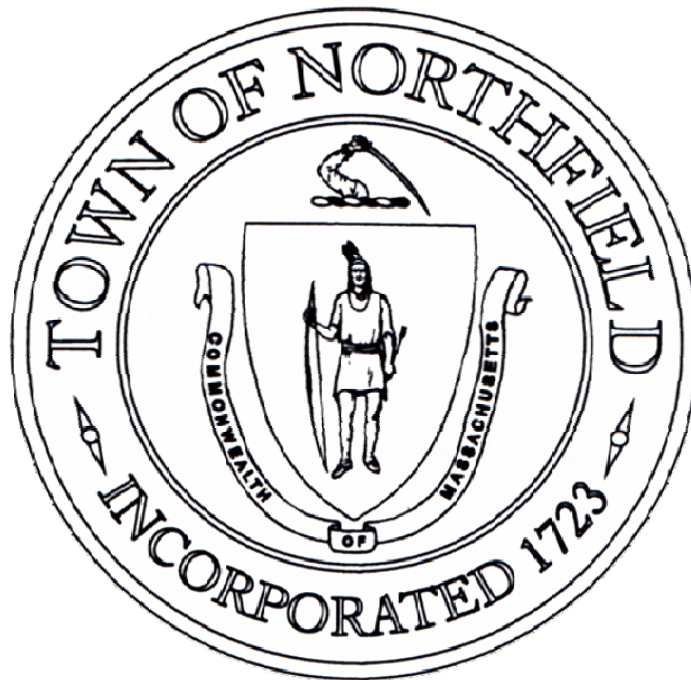


TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

May 6, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

Pioneer Valley Regional School
97 F. Sumner Turner Road
Northfield, Massachusetts



AND

ELECTION WARRANT

May 7, 2013

12:00 o'clock (noon) to 8:00 o'clock (eight) p.m.

Northfield Town Hall
69 Main Street

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

FRANKLIN, SS

To any of the Constables in the Town of Northfield, in the County of Franklin,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Northfield, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the

Pioneer Valley Regional School

on Monday, May 6, 2013 at seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 p.m.), then and there to act on the following:

Article 1. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to waive the reading of the Warrant and the Notice to the Constables and act on the motions of the following articles, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 2. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the reports of the several Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Commissions and Trustees, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 3. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend any sum or sums of money that may be available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Massachusetts Department of Transportation) for Chapter 90-type construction/improvements/reconstruction of public ways and associated equipment; and authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts relative thereto, and to appropriate said sum or sums in anticipation of reimbursement from the Commonwealth, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 4. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept from any association, agency, proprietorship, corporation, enterprise, individual, etc., a sum or sums of money or other gift for the benefit of the Town or any of its departments, etc., or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 5. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for state or federal grants, and to expend any monies received, as set forth in the appropriate grant application, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 6. (Submitted by the Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to approve that, upon exceeding the levy limit, any monies appropriated that exceed the Town Finance Committee recommendation under Article 7, or any other article of this Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Town Meeting, may be contingent upon the approval by the voters of an “override of Proposition 2 ½,” or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 7. (Submitted by the Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 41, §108, or any amendments thereto, to fix the salaries of all elected officials for Fiscal Year 2014, and raise and appropriate any sum or sums therefor, and further raise and appropriate any sum or sums of money for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, and for other necessary charges, in accordance with the amount recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in the final column of the Warrant, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

| | | | | APPROP FY 2013 | REQUESTED FY 2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| MODERATOR SALARY | | | | 51.00 | 52.00 | 52.00 |
| MODERATOR EXPENSE | | | | 30.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| SELECTMEN SALARIES | | | | 5,647.00 | 5,760.00 | 5,760.00 |
| | 2013 | 2014req | 2014rec | | | |
| Chairman | 1957.00 | 1996.00 | 1996.00 | | | |
| Others | 1845.00 | 1882.00 | 1882.00 | | | |
| SELECTMEN EXPENSE | | | | 10,742.00 | 11,840.00 | 11,840.00 |
| ADMIN ASST SALARY | | | | 50,829.00 | 52,716.00 | 52,716.00 |
| ADMIN ASST EXPENSE | | | | 1,781.00 | 820.00 | 820.00 |
| SECRETARY SALARY | | | | 37,277.00 | 38,877.00 | 38,877.00 |
| FINANCE COMM EXPENSE | | | | 1,368.00 | 1,368.00 | 1,368.00 |
| RESERVE FUND | | | | 15,000.00 | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| ACCOUNTANT SALARY | | | | 26,384.00 | 26,912.00 | 26,912.00 |
| ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE | | | | 315.00 | 370.00 | 370.00 |
| ASSESSORS SALARIES | | | | 5183.00 | 5,287.00 | 5,287.00 |
| | 2013 | 2014req | 2014rec | | | |
| chairman | 1817.00 | 1853.00 | 1853.00 | | | |
| Others | 1683.00 | 1717.00 | 1717.00 | | | |
| ASSESSORS CLERK SALARY | | | | 32,017.00 | 30,961.00 | 30,961.00 |
| ASSESSORS PROPERTY INSPECTOR | | | | 13,500.00 | 15,900.00 | 15,900.00 |
| ASSESSORS EXPENSE | | | | 12,240.00 | 12,610.00 | 12,610.00 |
| TREASURER SALARY | | | | 12,069.00 | 15,721.00 | 15,721.00 |
| TREASURER EXPENSE | | | | 4,000.00 | 4,100.00 | 4,100.00 |
| TAX COLLECTOR SALARY | | | | 12,069.00 | 15,721.00 | 15,721.00 |
| TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSE | | | | 5,500.00 | 5,600.00 | 5,600.00 |
| TOWN LEGAL COUNSEL | | | | 25,500.00 | 25,500.00 | 20,500.00 |
| COMPUTER SUPPLY/SERVICE | | | | 11,881.00 | 13,049.00 | 13,049.00 |
| TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE | | | | 2,300.00 | 2,300.00 | 2,300.00 |
| COPY MACHINE SUPPL/SERVICE | | | | 900.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| TOWN CLERK SALARY | | | | 33,521.00 | 34,961.00 | 34,961.00 |
| TOWN CLERK EXPENSE | | | | 3,235.00 | 3,235.00 | 3,235.00 |
| ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS | | | | 10,000.00 | 10,125.00 | 10,125.00 |
| CONSERV COMMISSION | | | | 2,890.00 | 3,046.00 | 3,046.00 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| PLANNING BOARD | 3,482.00 | 4,229.00 | 4,229.00 |
| ZONING/APPEALS BOARD | 3,046.00 | 4,107.00 | 4,107.00 |
| AG COMM EXPENSE | 500.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 | 1,200.00 |
| LAND DAMAGES | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN | 14,394.00 | 15,012.00 | 15,012.00 |
| BUILD MAINT PERSON | 34,870.00 | 35,567.00 | 35,567.00 |
| TOWN HALL MAINT | 38,890.00 | 40,020.00 | 40,020.00 |
| TOWN BLDG ELEVATOR & ALARM MAINT | 9,500.00 | 9,700.00 | 9,700.00 |
| TOWN BLDG SEWER USE | 2,000.00 | 2,200.00 | 2,200.00 |
| TOWN REPORTS | 400.00 | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| TOWN CLOCK | 150.00 | 300.00 | 150.00 |
| TOTAL | 444,662.00 | 471,597.00 | 466,447.00 |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| POLICE WAGES & SALARIES | 246,299.00 | 273,203.00 | 273,203.00 |
| POLICE OPER EXPENSE | 42,755.00 | 41,775.00 | 41,775.00 |
| FIRE DEPT SALARIES | 5,165.00 | 5,268.00 | 5,268.00 |
| FIRE DEPT WAGES | 40,498.00 | 41,308.00 | 41,308.00 |
| FIRE DEPT OPER EXP | 17,460.00 | 17,960.00 | 17,960.00 |
| HOSE & EQUIPMENT | 8,000.00 | 8,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| INSPECTION FEES | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| HYDRANTS | 5,460.00 | 5,460.00 | 5,460.00 |
| MAINT FIRE STATION | 15,250.00 | 17,300.00 | 17,300.00 |
| FIREPONDS/WATERHOLES | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 3,000.00 |
| BLDG INSPECTOR SALARY | 24,778.00 | 25,274.00 | 25,274.00 |
| BLDG INSPECTOR EXPENSE | 1,050.00 | 1,050.00 | 1,050.00 |
| GAS INSPECTION | 1,530.00 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| WIRE INSPECTION | 1,325.00 | 1,680.00 | 1,680.00 |
| CIVIL DEFENSE | 400.00 | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| DOG OFFICER SALARY | 3,183.00 | 3,247.00 | 3,247.00 |
| DOG OFFICER EXPENSE | 1,450.00 | 1,900.00 | 1,900.00 |
| TREE DEPT WAGES & EXPENSE | 8,925.00 | 8,925.00 | 8,925.00 |
| CONSTABLES WAGES | 1,020.00 | 1,040.00 | 1,040.00 |
| CONSTABLES EXPENSE | 330.00 | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| FENCE VIEWERS, ETC | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| TOTAL | 430,879.00 | 462,321.00 | 462,321.00 |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| ELEM SCHOOL MAINT | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| PVRS-OPER ASSMNT | 3,616,617.00 | 3,761,282.00 | 3,761,282.00 |
| PVRS-BLDG PROJ ASSESSMENT | 248,582.35 | 251,376.00 | 251,376.00 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| FRKLN CTY TECH SCHOOL-OPER ASSMNT | 252,083.00 | 315,843.00 | 315,843.00 |
| FRKLN CTY TECH SCHOOL-CAPTL ASSMNT | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 4,118,782.35 | 4,330,001.00 | 4,330,001.00 |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| HWY SUPT EXPENSE | 8,610.00 | 13,000.00 | 13,000.00 |
| HIGHWAY & SNOW REMOVAL WAGES | 252,376.00 | 260,320.00 | 260,320.00 |
| HWY, BRIDGES & RAILS | 165,375.00 | 165,375.00 | 165,375.00 |
| OILING & STONING | 63,000.00 | 63,000.00 | 63,000.00 |
| HIGHWAY TOOLS | 1,260.00 | 1,260.00 | 1,260.00 |
| SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSE | 75,390.00 | 75,390.00 | 75,390.00 |
| STREET LIGHTS | 13,000.00 | 13,800.00 | 13,800.00 |
| MACHINERY MAINTENANCE | 84,341.00 | 84,341.00 | 84,341.00 |
| MAINT HIGHWAY GARAGE | 11,550.00 | 11,550.00 | 11,550.00 |
| HWY BOUNDS,SURVEY,LISTS | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| SOLID WASTE DISTRICT | 7,526.00 | 8,555.00 | 8,555.00 |
| WASTE DISPOSAL | 111,000.00 | 110,579.00 | 110,579.00 |
| CEMETERY WAGES & EXPENSE | 11,550.00 | 20,000.00 | 20,000.00 |
| TOTAL | 804,979.00 | 827,171.00 | 827,171.00 |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| BD OF HEALTH SALARIES | 2,375.00 | 2,423.00 | 2,423.00 |
| BD OF HEALTH EXPENSE | 7,906.00 | 8,206.00 | 8,206.00 |
| PLUMBING INSPECTOR | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 | 2,500.00 |
| SHARED HEALTH AGENT | 10,492.00 | 10,650.00 | 10,650.00 |
| SEPTIC SYSTEM INSP FEES | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| ANIMAL INSPECTOR | 2,333.00 | 2,372.00 | 2,372.00 |
| COUNCIL ON AGING | 46,202.00 | 48,788.00 | 48,788.00 |
| SOLDIERS RELIEF | 24,500.00 | 24,500.00 | 24,500.00 |
| TOTAL | 97,808.00 | 100,939.00 | 100,939.00 |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| DICKINSON LIBRARY WAGES | 100,133.00 | 105,682.00 | 105,682.00 |
| DICKINSON LIBRARY EXP | 36,621.00 | 35,402.00 | 35,402.00 |
| NFLD FARMS LIBRARY | 575.00 | 600.00 | 600.00 |
| RECREATION COMM | 5,790.00 | 6,583.00 | 6,583.00 |
| REC COMM TRAINING & RECOGNITION | 250.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| REC PROGRM DIRECTR | 3,992.00 | 4,139.00 | 4,139.00 |
| MAINT ATHLETIC FIELD | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 | 4,000.00 |
| HISTORICAL COMMISSION | 400.00 | 500.00 | 500.00 |
| MEMORIAL DAY | 1,600.00 | 1,600.00 | 1,600.00 |
| ALEXANDER HALL | 300.00 | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| FRCOG ASSESSMENT | 25,900.00 | 29,796.00 | 29,796.00 |
| VETERANS DISTRICT | 5,948.00 | 5,948.00 | 5,948.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>185,509.00</u> | <u>194,800.00</u> | <u>194,800.00</u> |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| MATURING DEBT- PRIN | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| in enterprise fund | | | |
| Sewer (bnds 7/93) | | | |
| INT ON LONG TERM DEBT | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| in enterprise fund | | | |
| Sewer (bnds 7/93) | | | |
| INT ON SHORT TERM DEBT | 2000.00 | 2000.00 | 2000.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>2000.00</u> | <u>2000.00</u> | <u>2000.00</u> |

| | APPROP FY2013 | REQUESTED FY2014 | FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| COUNTY RETIREMENT | 146,836.00 | 159,770.00 | 159,770.00 |
| WORKERS COMP INSURANCE | 14,958.00 | 16,172.00 | 16,172.00 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT | 5,000.00 | 7,000.00 | 7,000.00 |
| HEALTH INSURANCE | 207,787.00 | 207,787.00 | 207,787.00 |
| LIFE INSURANCE | 1,700.00 | 1,700.00 | 1,700.00 |
| MEDICARE/FICA | 15,600.00 | 16,100.00 | 16,100.00 |
| OTHER INSURANCE | 61,303.00 | 61,303.00 | 61,303.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>453,184.00</u> | <u>469,832.00</u> | <u>469,832.00</u> |
| GRAND TOTAL | <u>6,537,803.35</u> | <u>6,858,661.00</u> | <u>6,853,511.00</u> |

Article 8. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for installing a sewer lining for Town Hall and building a canopy for the rear Town Hall entrances, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$37,000

Article 9. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for fireproof safes for the Town Clerk, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$4,000

Article 10. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the stabilization fund toward the purchase of a new fire truck, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$100,000

Article 11. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for a cruiser for the Police Department, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$36,000

Article 12. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for repairs to the 2006 Chevrolet Impala Northfield Police cruiser, or to pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$4,500

Article 13. (Submitted by Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance of the account created under Article 31 of the May 2, 2011 Annual Town Meeting for repairs to the Fire Station Roof to a new account for Fire Station repairs, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated account requested: \$6,920

Article 14. (Submitted by the Emergency Medical Services Enterprise Fund)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money to operate the Emergency Medical Services Enterprise Fund as shown below, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Wages and Salaries | 27,148.00 |
| Expenses | 70,884.00 |
| Reserve Fund | 5,000.00 |
| Budgeted Surplus | 4,968.00 |
| TOTAL: | \$108,000.00 |

and that \$108,000 be raised as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Department receipts | \$108,000.00 |
| Tax levy | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL: | \$108,000.00 |

Article 15. (Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise Fund as shown below, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Sewer Commissioner Salaries | 1,455.00 |
| Sewer Dept. Collector | 3,451.00 |
| Sewer Dept. Wages | 76,543.00 |
| Oper. & Maint. Sewer Plant | 71,135.00 |
| Reserve Fund | 10,000.00 |
| Maturing Debt - Principal | 48,744.00 |
| Maturing Debt - Interest | 2,560.00 |
| Interest on Short - Term Debt | 190.00 |
| TOTAL: | \$214,078.00 |

and that \$214,078.00 be raised as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Department receipts | \$214,078.00 |
| Tax levy | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL: | \$214,078.00 |

Article 16. (Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money for the replacement and installation of the emergency generator and transfer switch, whereby to fund said appropriation. The Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Sewer Commissioners, is hereby authorized to borrow an amount not to exceed \$35,000 and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 44, §7 or any other enabling authority; or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 17. (Submitted by the Sewer Commission)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money for the purchase of a blower, mechanical drawing, piping, and installation for the sludge holding tank, whereby to fund said appropriation, The Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Sewer Commissioners, is hereby authorized to borrow an amount not to exceed \$25,000 and to issue bonds and notes therefore in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 44, §7 or any other enabling authority; or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 18. (Submitted by the Trustees of the Library)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the “Dog Fund” account to supplement the Dickinson Memorial Library operating budget for the purpose of paying a portion of the annual fee to be a member of the regional library system, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$3,500

Article 19. (Submitted by the Trustees of the Library)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money to repair and update the Dickinson Memorial Library heating system, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$2,000

Article 20. (Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will reserve from FY 2014 Community Preservation Fund Estimated Revenue 10% (\$2,400) for open space purposes; 10% (\$2,400) for historic preservation; 10% (\$2,400) for affordable housing; and the remaining (\$15,600) to the FY 2014 Community Preservation Fund budgeted reserve, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$22,800

Article 21. (Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1,200 from the FY 2014 Community Preservation Fund Estimated Revenue revenues for administrative and operating expenses, including legal expenses, of the Northfield Community Preservation Committee, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$1,200

Article 22. (Submitted by the Board of Health)

To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2014 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E1/2 for the receipts related to the Town's recycling program and expenditures for the operation of the Town's solid waste and recycling programs, to be under the authority of the Board of Health and not to exceed \$60,000 in expenditures in Fiscal Year 2014; receipts credited to include all monies received from recycling programs, including paper, cardboard, containers, books, and scrap metal, and, funds currently held in escrow at the Franklin County Solid Waste District.

Article 23. (Submitted by the Pioneer Valley Regional School District)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for paying the Town's share of the Northfield Elementary School roof project, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$9,367

Article 24. (Submitted by the Pioneer Valley Regional School District)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for paying the Town's share of the Pioneer Valley Regional School boiler replacement project, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$45,148

Article 25. (Submitted by the Pioneer Valley Regional School District)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for pneumatic calibration of the heating system at the Northfield Elementary School, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$10,000

Article 26. (Submitted by the Pioneer Valley Regional School District)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for Northfield's share of Pioneer Valley Regional School capital projects, including a front door alarm system; a faucet hydrant mandated by the Department of Environmental Protection; replacing the well water pump; and air conditioning back-up for technology head end room, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$18,980

Article 27. (Submitted by the Pioneer Valley Regional School District)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for Northfield's share of Pioneer Valley Regional School Central Office capital projects, including HVAC and air conditioning in two central office modular and burglar and fire alarms throughout modulars, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$26,000

Article 28. (Submitted by the Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for an enhanced community participation process regarding the Master Plan, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested: \$5,000

Article 29. (Submitted by the Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-law to add the following new Article XII, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto:

Article XII. One-Year Growth Restriction

12.1 Purpose

The purpose of this section is to implement a reasonable and temporary cap, until July 1, 2014, on construction of new dwelling units in town.

The Town of Northfield is faced with the possibility of sudden increased development activity at any time due to the current availability and unknown future disposition of multiple large properties of historic and cultural significance. The Town is also currently in the process of developing an updated Master Plan, outlining a community vision for the future of the Town. The purposes of this Section are: to promote orderly growth in the Town of Northfield; to phase growth so that it will not unduly strain the community's ability to provide basic education, public facilities and services; to provide the town, its boards and its agencies with information, time and capacity to incorporate community input into the updated Master Plan and the regulations of the community; and to preserve and enhance existing community character and the value of property. This Section shall remain in effect until June 30, 2014; at the Spring 2014 Town Meeting the Northfield Planning Board intends to present an updated growth bylaw proposal based on Master Plan recommendations, and possibly propose to extend this Section for one year to allow further study, or shall allow this Section to expire.

12.2 Regulations

12.2.1 Scope

No building permit for a new Dwelling shall be issued unless in accordance with the Regulations of Section 12 of this Bylaw. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to, nor limit in any way, the granting of building and occupancy permits required for enlargement, restoration, or reconstruction of existing dwellings including those dwellings lost to natural disaster or fire.

12.2.2 Application

The Regulations of this section shall apply to all new dwelling units, including but not limited to definitive subdivision plans, divisions of land not requiring subdivision approval, and Special Permits which would result in the creation of a new dwelling unit or units.

12.2.3 Issuance of Residential Building Permits

A. A town-wide total of not more than six (6) new dwelling units shall be authorized by the Town during the period that this Section is in effect.

B. General Applicants. Not more than two (2) dwelling units shall be authorized via a Building Permit(s) for any one applicant during the period that this Section is in effect.

Article 30. (Sponsored by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way the altered layout of portions of Four Mile Brook Road, to include within the layout of said roadway the parcels of land shown as “Parcel 1-2” on a plan entitled “Roadway Acquisition Plan of Land in Northfield, Massachusetts,” dated September 25, 2012, prepared by Bryant Associates, Inc., recorded with the Franklin Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 133, Page 81, and “Parcel G-1,” “Parcel 2-1” and “Parcel 3” on a plan entitled “Roadway Acquisition Plan of Land in Northfield, Massachusetts,” dated January 22, 2013, prepared by Bryant Associates, Inc., said plans on file with the office of the Town Clerk; and to accept said parcels for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Northfield, and all easements related thereto; or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 31. (Submitted by the Recreation Commission)

To see if the Town will vote in ballot form, as per approval at the Feb. 25th 2013 special town meeting, to decide a town flag among the three top choices selected by the Recreation Commission, to include a fourth choice as “none of the above.” Top ballot vote will be selected to represent the town as official Town of Northfield flag unless none of the above is chosen.

Article 32. (Submitted by the Historical Commission)

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following by-laws for the Northfield Historical Commission, or to pass any vote or votes relative thereto:

SECTION 1 HISTORICAL COMMISSION

1.1 PURPOSES: On April 2, 1974, the Town of Northfield accepted M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 8D and established the Northfield Historical Commission, hereinafter called the

Commission, for the purposes of identifying, preserving, protecting, and developing the historical or archeological assets of the town as evidence of its past history. Such Commission shall conduct research for places of historic or archeological importance located in Northfield, shall cooperate with the Massachusetts State Archeologist in conducting such researches or other surveys, shall establish an Inventory (Northfield Historical Inventory) and shall seek to coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes, and may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans, booklets, leaflets, or pamphlets it deems as required for the judicious carrying out its work.

For the purpose of protecting and preserving such significant places, it shall make recommendations for inclusion in its Inventory to the Board of Selectmen, and, (subject to the approval of that Board), to the Massachusetts Historical Commission, that any such places be certified as a Northfield historical or archeological landmarks, and subsequently listed in the Northfield Historical Commission Inventory.

It shall report to the State Archeologist the existence of any archeological, paleontological, or historical sites or objects discovered in accordance with Section M.G.L. 27C of Chapter 9, and shall apply for permits necessary pursuant to said M.G.L. Section 27C. Any information received by the Historical Commission with respect to the location of such sites and as to specimens uncovered, as defined in M.G.L. Section 26B of Chapter 9, shall not be made a public record.

The Commission may hold hearings, may enter into contracts with individuals, organizations and institutions for services furthering the objectives of the Commission's programs; may enter into contracts with local or regional associations for cooperative endeavors furthering the Commission's programs; may accept gifts, contributions and bequests of funds from individuals, foundations and from federal, state, or other governmental bodies for the purpose of furthering the Commission's programs; may make and sign any agreements and may do and perform any and all acts which may be necessary or desirable to carry out the purposes of this section. It shall keep accurate records of its meetings and actions and shall file an annual report that shall be printed in the Northfield Annual Town Report. The Commission may appoint clerks or other employees as required to carry out its duties.

1.2 COMMISSION MEMBERS: As authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 40, the Historical Commission of the Town of Northfield, shall consist of seven (7) members, each of whom shall be a resident of the Town of Northfield, appointed by the members of the Board of Selectmen and shall serve for a term of three years. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the membership, other than by the expiration of the term of a member, a successor shall be appointed by the Selectmen to serve for the balance of the unexpired term.

1.3 QUORUM: At all meetings of the Historical Commission, four (4) members shall constitute a quorum.

1.4 OFFICERS: The members of the Historical Commission shall annually, within thirty (30) days after the annual appointments are made by the Board of Selectmen, elect from its membership a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary, all whom shall serve during the ensuing year and until the election of their successors. All other meetings of the

members shall be held at such designated times and places as the members shall designate.

1.5 POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION: The Historical Commission may exercise all the powers, authority, and functions authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 8D, and may make reasonable Rules and Regulations to aid in the orderly performance of its powers, authority and functions consistent with said Section 8D and Section 2, below.

1.6 HISTORICAL INVENTORY: The Historical Commission shall make as its primary duty the creation, establishment and regular maintenance of a Northfield Historical Commission Inventory. This Inventory shall be a catalog of all known or suspected historical sites or properties listed or awaiting listing in the Northfield Historical Commission Inventory or on the National and/or State Registers, or property that has been associated with historic person(s) or event(s), or has been designated by the Northfield Historical Commission as unique and/or historically, architecturally, or archaeologically significant and as requiring the protections provided by the Commission.

SECTION 2 DEMOLITION OR DESTRUCTION OF HISTORICAL SITES OR STRUCTURES

2.1 PURPOSE. The purpose of this by-law is to provide a review procedure resulting in a delay in the demolition of historically significant sites or structures. This by-law does not indefinitely prohibit a proposed demolition but allows time for consideration of preservation alternatives to destruction. Property owners retain final decision-making authority.

2.2 DEFINITIONS:

Demolition - the act of pulling down, destroying, removing, or razing an archaeological site, or an historical structure or building, or portion of a site, structure, or building, or proposing to commence such work with the intent of completing the same.

Historically Significant - property that is listed in the Northfield Historical Inventory and is listed or is awaiting listing in the Northfield Historical Inventory or the National and/or State Registers, or property that has been associated with historic person(s) or event(s), or has been designated by the Northfield Historical Commission as unique and/or historically or architecturally significant.

Preferably Preserved - property that is deemed worthy of a delay period to allow for consideration of alternatives to loss or destruction.

2.3 INITIAL DETERMINATION: When an application for a construction permit or a building demolition permit is filed with the Building Commissioner, before issuing such permits, the Building Commissioner shall ascertain if the site, property, or the structure is contained in the Northfield Historical Commission Inventory.

2.3.1 SEEKING CERTIFICATION: Before issuing a construction or demolition permit for any structure, the Building Commissioner shall request that the Commission determine if the site or structure is currently listed or is awaiting listing in the National and/or State

Registers, or if the property has been associated with historic person(s) or event(s), or if it has been designated by the Commission as unique or architecturally significant -- and to seek the Commission's approval. If such is the case (Inventoried), the Commission will not approve the permit nor shall the permit be issued by the Building Commissioner. The demolition permit application need not be accompanied by evidence of workmen's compensation coverage or letters from utility providers that the utilities have been disconnected in order for the application to be referred to the Commission for review and/or approval.

SECTION 3 PROCEDURE FOR REVIEW:

3.1 SUBMISSION: Within five (5) business days of receipt of an application for a demolition permit, the Building Commissioner shall forward the application to the Commission, and shall not issue either a construction or a demolition permit until the Commission has approved and returned the application to the Building Commissioner. A permit may be issued by the Building Commissioner should the Commission fail to act within the time limits set within this Demolition Delay By-Law.

3.2 MEETING: The Commission shall hold a meeting to determine whether the site or the structure is historically significant within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of the application from the Building Commissioner. The Commission shall notify the applicant at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

3.3 PARTICIPATION: At this meeting, the owner(s) of the property (or the owner(s)' representative) may make a presentation to the Commission, if they choose.

3.4 INSIGNIFICANCE: If the Commission finds that the site or the structure is not historically significant, there will not be a need for a Demolition Plan Review, and the application will be approved and immediately returned to the Building Commissioner.

3.5 HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: If the site or building is found to be historically significant, there will be a Demolition Plan Review conducted by the Commission.

SECTION 4 DEMOLITION PLAN REVIEW PROCESS:

4.1 SUBMISSIONS: The applicant(s) must submit seven (7) copies of a Demolition Plan to the Commission.

The Demolition Plan shall contain:

- 1) A map or plan showing the location of the building or structure to be demolished or the site to be disturbed.
- 2) A photograph of any existing street facade elevation.
- 3) A narrative description of the site to be disturbed or the building or structure, or part thereof, to be demolished.
- 4) The reason for the proposed destruction and data supporting said reason, including (where applicable) data sufficient to establish any economic justification for disturbing the site or for the demolition.

5) A certified list of abutters to said property and other neighbors within three hundred (300) feet, whose names are ascertained from the Board of Assessor's most recent tax list.

4.2 TIME: Within forty-five (45) days of the receipt of the Demolition Plan from the applicant, the Commission shall review the application at a public hearing to determine if the structure (or the site) should be preserved. Public notice of such hearing shall be published by the Commission (at the expense of the applicant) in a local newspaper giving the time, place, and purpose of the hearing once in each of two (2) successive weeks, the first publication not less than fourteen (14) days before the day of said hearing. The Commission shall also mail a copy of said notice to the applicant, to abutters and to all owners of all property within three-hundred (300) feet of the applicant's property as appearing on the most recent tax list, to the Northfield Planning Board, and to such other Boards or persons the Commission believes should be notified.

4.3 APPROVAL: If the Commission determines that the structure or building does not merit to be saved or a site to be preserved, the application for a permit to demolish or for a site to be excavated will be approved by the Commission and immediately returned to the Building Commissioner.

4.4 NON-APPROVAL: If the building, structure, or site is determined to be Preferably-Preserved, the application for a permit to demolish is not approved by the Commission and need not be returned to the Building Commissioner for a period of six (6) months from the date on which the Commission files its report with the Town Clerk to prevent demolition or destruction.

4.5 REDUCTION OF TIME FOR DEMOLITION DELAY: If the Commission is satisfied that the applicant/owner has made a continuing, bona fide and reasonable effort to find alternatives to demolition with no success, the application may be returned to the Building Commissioner before the expiration of the six (6)-month period.

4.6 FAILURE TO ACT: If the Commission fails to act within the specified time limits, the Building Commissioner may issue a Demolition Permit without the application being returned from the Commission.

SECTION 5 BUILDING PERMITS

5.1 ISSUANCE: No permit for the alteration of an existing structure or the erection of a new structure that involves demolition on the site of an existing historically significant building or the destruction of an archaeological significant site may be issued prior to the issuance of a demolition permit from the Building Commissioner that has been approved by the Commission for such an existing building or any portion thereof.

SECTION EMERGENCY DEMOLITIONS

6.1 EMERGENCY ISSUANCE: The Building Commissioner may issue a demolition permit at any time in the event of imminent and substantial danger to the health or safety of

the public due to drastic or deteriorating conditions in the historically significant building. The Building Commissioner shall inspect the building and document, in writing, the findings and reasons requiring an emergency demolition, a copy of which shall be forwarded immediately to the Commission.

6.2 ENFORCEMENT AND REMEDIES: In the event of a demolition of an historically significant building in violation of this by-law, the person or persons responsible for the demolition, including, but not limited to, the owners, tenants, developers, or contractors, shall each be subject to a fine of up to three-hundred dollars (\$300) per day for each violation. Each day that the building is not restored to its condition as existed immediately prior to the said demolition, and the demolition permit is not issued, shall be a separate offense, up to a maximum of one hundred and eighty three (183) days (6 months).

6.3 SEVERABILITY: If any section, paragraph or part of this by-law is for any reason declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court, every other section, paragraph and part shall continue in full force and effect.

6.4 RULES AND REGULATIONS: Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 8D and Section 1.5 above, the Historical Commission shall adopt Rules and Regulations needed to implement this section.

SECTION 7 APPEALS

SECTION 7.1 Any person aggrieved by a determination of the Northfield Historical Commission may appeal to the Superior Court, per M.G.L. 249, Section 4, Article 3, Section 8D.

Article 33. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into renewable energy purchase and/or net metering credit purchase agreements, including solar energy and related net metering credits, for terms of more than three years, and to take all actions necessary to implement and administer such agreements, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Article 34. (Submitted by the Selectboard)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund for the maintenance and operation of the Highway Department's bucket truck per the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53E½, for which revenues received from other towns as their share of the cost of ownership and operation of the bucket truck will be deposited into the fund and expended to pay related costs under the direction of the Selectboard, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1 next will be limited to \$2,000.00, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year, and to raise and appropriate funds therefor, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested \$300

Article 35. (Submitted by the Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the Stabilization Fund/Account, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Estimated amount requested \$355,000

Article 36. (Submitted by the Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Assessors to transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money for the purpose of reducing the Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2014, or pass any vote or votes relative thereto.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord two thousand and thirteen:

Attest:

Kathleen F. Wright, Chairman

Gail V. Zukowski CMMC
Town Clerk

Dan A. Gray

Date

John F. Spanbauer
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Annual Election Warrant

FRANKLIN, SS.

To any of the Constables in the Town of Northfield, in the County of Franklin,

GREETINGS:

You are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Northfield, qualified to vote in the elections and Town affairs, to meet at the

Northfield Town Hall, 69 Main Street

In Northfield on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at noon (12:00 o'clock), then and there to bring in their votes by ballot for the following officers for the coming year:

One Board of Selectmen (Three year term)
One Board of Assessor (Three year term)
Two Board of Health (Three year term)
Three Constable (Three year term)
One Constable Northfield Farms (Three year term)
Two Board of Library Trustees (Three year term)
One Planning Board (Five year term)
One Planning Board (Two year term)
Two Recreation Commission (Three year term)
One Board of Sewer Commissioner (Three year term)
One Board of Trustees of Veterans Memorials /Veteran ((Three year term)
One Board of Trustees of Veterans Memorials /Non-Veteran (Three-year term)

The polls will open at 12:00 o'clock (noon) and close at 8:00 o'clock (eight) p.m.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the Town Hall, the U.S. Post Office in Northfield, the Dickinson Memorial Library, the Field Library, Northfield Farms, and the V.F.W., West Northfield, in said Town seven days at least before holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as foresaid.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord
two thousand and thirteen:

Attest:

Kathleen F. Wright, Chairman

Gail V. Zukowski CMMC
Town Clerk

Dan A. Gray

Date

John G. Spanbauer
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FRANKLIN SS.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Northfield by posting up attested copies of the same at the Town Hall, the U.S. Post Office in Northfield, the Dickinson Memorial Library, the Field Library, Northfield Farms and V.F.W., West Northfield, in said Town seven days at least before date hereof, as within directed.

Constable of Northfield

Date

MAY REMOVE AFTER May 8, 2013